<table>
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<th>FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT SMU PANAMA TRIPS</th>
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| **Who can go?** | • SMU Students: all programs, all levels. If your program is not on break, you need to professionally negotiate with faculty to determine if you can attend.  
• SMU Alumni: all programs. We always need licensed providers to provide care and supervise students.  
• SMU Faculty: all programs. Even if you’re not a provider, we can find jobs for you!  
• SMU Staff: Especially if you speak Spanish. Space may be limited to allow students/alumni to attend.  
• Other health professions students from other programs: If we have room, you are more than welcome! |
| **What does it cost?** | Total ranges from $1550-1700 per person for the week  
• $700-800 for airfare from SFO to Panama, this may vary  
• $850 for in-country costs which covers all transportation, lodging, and meals (except for 2 lunches on your own)  
• Panama Canal admission ($15), extra snacks, and souvenirs are on your own |
| **What are the travel conditions like?** | Some travel is on paved roads in an air conditioned mini-bus. Other travel is in pickup trucks on unpaved, rural dirt roads. It takes 4+ hours in a truck to get to Batata (one way) after we leave the road. Some trips we may do remote clinics, requiring travel to/from locations 1-2 hours away by trunk for clinic. |
| **Where do we stay?** | • 3 nights in a hostel outside Panama City: dorm-like accommodations with bunk beds and shared bathroom, small pool  
• 4 nights in rural school in Batata: camping-like conditions with air mattresses and limited bathroom facilities |
| **What do we do?** | The primary purpose of the trip is providing healthcare to underserved, native people in remote villages in Panama. We have 3 days of clinic in remote rural villages, when possible we may do 1-2 days of remote clinics. There is usually 1 day for sight-seeing in Panama City at the Canal and Casco Antiguo. We try to stop by a beach for an afternoon to relax when returning from Batata. |
| **What do I need to do to prepare or bring with me?** | Visit our Panama webpage for more information on:  
• Travel vaccination and health recommendations per CDC guidelines  
• Passport  
• Packing suggestions & list  
[www.samuelmerritt.edu/ihc/panama](http://www.samuelmerritt.edu/ihc/panama) |
| **What about fundraising?** | • Medications & supplies: EVERYONE needs to help with group fundraising to purchase our medications and other supplies. We do many different fundraisers, and are always open to new ideas! You MUST contribute your assistance to our group fundraising efforts.  
• Your personal costs: Use something like GoFundMe or another online fundraising app to get your family & friends to help contribute to your costs! |
| **How do I sign up?** | Come to a Panama Information Meeting, SMU International Healthcare Club Meeting, or email Sharon Gorman ([sgorman@samuelmerritt.edu](mailto:sgorman@samuelmerritt.edu)) to let us know your intention to come to Panama! |

**Next Trip: August 14-21, 2015**  
Deposit deadline: $250 non-refundable deposit due June 1  
Payment of remaining in-country fees: $600 due July 6  
Airfare payment is usually due approximately 4 weeks prior to departure